

From: Richard Congdon
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 2:27pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to express my dissatisfaction with the Proposed Final Judgement (PJF) currently before your division vis-a-vis Microsoft(MS). I don't know if it is relevant, but I want to give a brief essay on why this would unjust.

Unlike some others you will be hearing from, I am no MS-hater. They usually produce software of equal or superior quality to their competitors, and for that they should be commended. More than that, if they do produce a superior products, I think that they should dominate the market. That is, as long as this superiority is not achieved by secret knowledge and manipulation of the underlying infrastructure.

While monopolies such as MS enjoys with it's various Windows OS's can sometimes be (and in this case is) beneficial, they should be treated as such. In order to allow for the possibility of innovation in non-OS software, MS must be compelled to reveal all of the particulars on how MS OS's work. Otherwise, it is virtually impossible for MS competitors to compete, simply because MS not only holds all the cards, but is also the one with the card printing press.

This problem would have been solved if Judge Jackson's breakup had occurred. Since there will be no breakup, I dearly hope that the Justice Department will come to some sort of agreement that restrains MS's behavior, and also provides real penalties for non-conformance.

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